U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

|                        | CILL                 |        | CITION TOUR SECTION TO THE SECTION T | personal are required to respond to a con- |                             |
|------------------------|----------------------|--------|--|--|-----------------------------|
| Substitute             | e for form 1449A/PTO |        |  |  | Complete if Known           |
| INFO                   | ORMATION             | DI     | SCLOSURE   | Application Number                         | Not yet assigned 10/7/8,852 |
| STATEMENT BY APPLICANT |                      |        |  | Filing Date                                | November 20, 2003           |
| SIA                    | I ENERT D            | ı A    | HEICANI  | First Named Inventor                       | Hixon et al.                |
|                        |                      |        |  | Group Art Unit                             | Not yet assigned 3724       |
|                        | (use as many she     | ets as | necessary)   | Examiner Name                              | Not yet assigned            |
| Sheet                  | 1                    | of     | 2  | Attorney Docket Number                     | 2916-4842.1US               |

|                        |                          | Document Number                            | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or Applicant of | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant  |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Examiner<br>Initials * | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) | MM-DD-YYYY       | Cited Document                   | Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
| h                      |                          | US-787,348                                 | 04/11/1905       | Hansen                           |  |
| h                      |                          | US- 2,005,340                              | 06/18/1935       | Jaffin et al.                    |  |
| K                      |                          | US- 3,850,059                              | 11/26/1974       | Kang                             |  |
| ん                      |                          | US- 4,102,045                              | 07/25/1978       | Bergh                            |  |
| 7                      |                          | US- 4,204,468                              | 05/27/1980       | Harrison                         |  |
| Á                      |                          | US- 4,278,017                              | 07/14/1981       | Conjura                          |  |
| h                      |                          | US- 4,574,693                              | 03/11/1986       | Fink et al.                      |  |
| h.                     |                          | US- 4,817,287                              | 04/04/1989       | Amold et al.                     |  |
| 6                      |                          | US- 5,138,923                              | 08/18/92         | Kent et al.                      |  |
| n                      |                          | US- 5,172,622                              | 12/22/92         | Sabin                            |  |
| A                      | İ                        | US- 5,601,006                              | 02/11/97         | Quinn et al.                     |  |
| 6                      |                          | US- 5,632,188                              | 05/27/97         | Karlis                           |  |
| h                      |                          | US- 5,638,730                              | 06/17/97         | Karlis                           |  |
| 6                      | 1                        | US- 5,660,105                              | 08/26/97         | Benson et al.                    |  |
| A                      |                          | US- 5,943,935                              | 08/31/99         | Brayton et al.                   |  |
| K                      | 1                        | US- 6,000,139                              | 12/14/99         | Chan                             |  |
| 7                      |                          | US-6,026,725 '                             | 02/22/00         | Okonski                          |  |
| in                     |                          | US- 6,089,137                              | 07/18/00         | Lee                              |  |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS        |          |   |                                |                              |   |    |
|---------------------------------|----------|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---|----|
| Examiner Cite<br>Initials* No.1 | Cite     | Foreign Patent Document   |                                | Name of Patentee or          | Pages, Cohmms, Lines,                                 |    |
|                                 | 1        | Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>3</sup> (if known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Applicant of Cited  Document | Where Relevant Passages or<br>Relevant Figures Appear | T⁴ |
| h                               |          | FR 401 583  | 09/03/1909                     | Nicolas                      |   |    |
| h                               |          | FR 436 904  | 04/09/1912                     | Allaire                      |   |    |
| a                               |          | GB 20349  | 07/30/1914                     | Levecque                     |   |    |
| 1                               | 1        | GB 164247   | 06/09/1921                     | Cain                         |   |    |
| n                               |          | DE 614 618  | 06/14/1935                     | Mako Fabrik fur<br>Maschinen |   |    |
| h                               |          | DE 87 05 505  | 08/27/1987                     | Diehl                        |   |    |
| ñ                               |          | EP 0 355 673 A1   | 02/28/1990                     | Nagl                         |   |    |
| 1                               |          | EP 0 623 417 A2   | 11/09/1994                     | Helferich                    |   |    |
| n                               |          | WO 00/51533   | 09/08/2000                     | Andersen                     |   |    |
| <i>1</i> ~                      | <u> </u> | WO 01/17794 A1  | 03/15/2001                     | Hutchison et al.             |   |    |

|                       |     | <del></del>        |         |
|-----------------------|-----|--------------------|---------|
| Examiner<br>Signature | len | Date<br>Considered | 5/19/04 |

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>3</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO     |                        | Complete if Known           |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| INFORMATION DIOCLOSUPE            | Application Number     | Not yet assigned 10/7/8,852 |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE            | Filing Date            | November 20, 2003           |
| STATEMENT BY APPLICANT            | First Named Inventor   | Hixon et al.                |
|                                   | Group Art Unit         | Not yet assigned 3724       |
| (use as many sheets as necessary) | Examiner Name          | Not yet assigned            |
| Sheet 2 of 2                      | Attorney Docket Number | 2916-4842 1119              |

|                        | 1            | OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS   | -              |
|------------------------|--------------|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials * | Cite<br>No.1 | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |
|                        |              | International Search Report of September 2, 2002  |                |
|                        |              | International-Search-Report of October 17, 2002   |                |
| *                      |              |   |                |
|                        |              |   |                |
|                        |              |   |                |
|                        |              | ·   |                |
|                        |              |   |                |
|                        |              |   |                |
| -                      |              |   |                |
|                        |              | ·   |                |
|                        |              |   |                |

| Examiner<br>Signature | All   | ′ . | ate<br>onsidered | 5 | 119/04 |
|-----------------------|-------|-----|------------------|---|--------|
|                       | . /\l |     |                  |   |        |

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

|   | Substitute fo | or form 1449A/PTO | 0         |            |                        | Complete if Known           |
|---|---------------|-------------------|-----------|------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT |               |                   |           |            | Application Number     | Not yet assigned 10/7/8,852 |
|   |               |                   |           |            | Filing Date            | November 20, 2003           |
|   |               |                   |           |            | First Named Inventor   | Hixon et al.                |
|   |               |                   |           |            | Group Art Unit         | Not yet assigned 3724       |
|   |               | (use as many      | sheets as | necessary) | Examiner Name          | Not yet assigned            |
|   | Sheet         | 1                 | of        | 1          | Attorney Docket Number | 2916-4842.1US               |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS  |                          |  |                  |                                  |                                       |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--|------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| F                      | G:-                      | Document Number                            | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or Applicant of | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant |
| Examiner<br>Initials * | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) | MM-DD-YYYY       | Cited Document                   | Passages or Relevant Figures Appear   |
| n                      |                          | US-6,220,136                               | 04/24/01         | Benes et al.                     |                                       |
|                        |                          | US-  |                  |                                  |                                       |
| ,                      |                          | US-  |                  |                                  |                                       |
|                        |                          | US-  |                  | ·                                |                                       |
|                        | 1                        | US-  |                  |                                  |                                       |
|                        | T                        | US-  |                  |                                  |                                       |
|                        |                          | US-  |                  |                                  |                                       |
|                        |                          | US-  |                  |                                  |                                       |
|                        |                          | US-  | -                |                                  |                                       |
|                        |                          | US-  |                  |                                  |                                       |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |  |   |                                |  |   |                |
|--------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| Examiner Cite            | Foreign Patent Document                          |   | Name of Patentee or            | Pages, Columns, Lines,                 |   |                |
| Initials*                | No.1   | Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Applicant of Cited<br>Document         | Where Relevant Passages or<br>Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|                          | <u> </u>   |   |                                | ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ |   |                |
|                          |  |   |                                |  |   |                |
|                          |  |   |                                | <del></del>                            |   |                |
|                          |  |   |                                |  |   |                |
|                          |  |   | -                              |  |   |                |
|                          | <del>                                     </del> |   | +                              |  | <del>                                     </del>      |                |

| Examiner<br>Signature | Date<br>Considered | 5/19/04 |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------|
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------|

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.